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SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1909.

LET YOUR PAPER FOLLOW YOU.

The Washington Herald will be mailed upon request to subscribers leaving the city during the summer months. Change of address will be made as frequently as desired; notices of such change should give both the old and new address. Notify your carrier or newsdealer or telephone direct to The Washington Herald, 754 15th st. n.w. The subscription rate is the same out of town as in the city.

The Senate Tariff Bill.

The Payne tariff bill goes back to the House loaded down with Senate amendments making it a more highly protective measure than any tariff heretofore adopted by an American Congress, in spite of the numerous decreases in duty in sundry schedules. These decreases, as Senator La Follette has pointed out, relate in the main to trivial matters, or, as in the case of steel rails, to commodities which could not be imported in quantities, no matter what the duty; whereas the many increases affect a larger volume of imports and favor important special interests.

Approximately 75 per cent of our dutiable importations will continue to come in under the old Dingley rates, 15 per cent will come in under increased rates of duty, and but 10 per cent will come in under reduced rates. Less than \$5,000,000 of tariff taxation is remitted by the revised schedules as they leave the Senate, and the increased duties impose added tariff taxation amounting to nearly \$15,000,000.

In seven out of the fourteen schedules equivalent ad valorem duties show an increase over the duties of the present law; in two they remain the same, and in five they show a reduction. The average ad valorem duties imposed by the entire bill show an increase from 40.21 to 47.7. Such is revision of the tariff by its friends. With a little touching up in conference, it ought to be satisfactory to the most hardened standpatter.

While there can be no doubt as to the quality of the bill as a measure of tariff revision, there may be considerable question as to its revenue-producing abilities. The estimates that have been made are, and must remain, little better than guesses. No one can actually tell until the bill has been in operation for a year or more what it will do toward providing sufficient revenue. Various changes in the method of valuation of imported goods complicate the increases in duties, and although Mr. Aldrich has expressed confidence that the prevention of undervaluations will produce large additions to the customs revenue, it remains to be seen whether higher duties will not diminish the volume of imports. There appear to be no available data regarding the probable returns from the corporation tax. It is widely believed that it will prove a larger revenue yielder than the President anticipated, and so may make up for any deficiency in customs receipts. But in any event, the new taxation will not afford the Treasury any relief for a year or more, so that the government may be forced to borrow money to meet the extravagant appropriations of the last session.

Mr. Aldrich has already intimated that the question of bond issues will be taken up in December. It is evident that the whole matter of adjusting revenue to expenditure, or the reverse operation, is still in a chaotic condition, and must so remain for some time to come.

Some More Law.

The Supreme Court of the State of Missouri appears to be very much up-to-date, as tribunals of that kind go nowadays, if, indeed, not a trifle ahead of the times. It has ruled that no claim for damages can be against a railroad for accidentally wiping out of existence an entire family, no matter what the negligence, direct or contributory, might have been, or what the amount of damages that legally would have accrued had even one member of the annihilated family been left alive.

Plainly enough, this deceased family occupies the same place in the minds of the Supreme Court of Missouri that the so-called "ultimate consumer" occupies in the mind of Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts. Having ceased to exist, it is entitled to no rights in civil law or to benefit of clergy. Theoretically, it has, at best, a wobbly standing; practically, it is more or less mythical. Its obliteration works no hardship on anybody because, in the legal aspect of the matter, its precipitate taking off was effected more in sorrow than in anger, and the clean sweep of the execution left no possible loophole for rational regret or possible mental or physical suffering among collateral kin.

Why, therefore, should railroads kill people severely and pay big damages when they may legally remove them in clusters and escape paying even the coroner's fee? Really this remarkable finding

should encourage transportation companies to offer special inducements to families to travel together. In this way many of the cranks safeguards imposed by statutes might be dispensed with, and the service would be cheapened.

A learned jurist once averred that no one could know the law before the Supreme Court had made a guess at it. The sage observation appears to have been amply justified by the history of legal procedure in these United States. There are only some forty-odd Supreme Courts in this land of the free and home of the brave, and all of them are conducting guessing contests of more or less importance practically all of the time. No wonder we have so much law that is law.

A Mystery and Its Belated Sequel.

More than casual interest must attach to the result of an investigation which is being conducted into the circumstances which contributed to, or caused, the death, at Annapolis, Md., some months ago of an officer of the Marine Corps. The original inquiry was made to show that the officer died by his own hand, and the casualty has been classed with that of the suicides, although there were evidences of some sort of a disturbance among the four marine officers with whom the deceased was associated on the night of his death.

The mystery of that event was not fully dispelled by the official report of the court of inquiry, and the dead officer's friends and relatives have lately been insisting that some further investigation be made, which action, it is understood, was taken with much reluctance and, in some quarters, without approval.

It ought not to be necessary for those who are interested in this tragic incident to make unusual effort to have the death of such an officer fully and frankly investigated. No branch of the public service has anything to lose by having the truth known, and it is inconceivable, as has been suggested by some of the sensational newspapers, that anybody in official place is anxious to hide anything or shield a culprit, if there be one. It is made to appear that certain witnesses originally called in this case are now giving testimony, at least to the newspapers, which admits of a very different conclusion from that which regarded this mysterious affair as a case of suicide. It will be well to ascertain why there is such a belated ascertainment of some of the information which has an important bearing on the findings of the court of inquiry. It is proper to reserve judgment until something more is officially promulgated, but it is not out of place here and now to express surprise that a second investigation of such an incident is necessary. It would have been worth while to have exhausted the sources of information in the first instance.

Convict Road-making.

Pennsylvania wants good roads, but balks at the expense. Simultaneously, the convicts in its two penitentiaries, so far as their cries are permitted to be heard, are pleading for work. The Philadelphia grand jury has gone so far as to recommend that "work should be found for convicts." There was a time when the system of solitary confinement, in strict vogue in the Pennsylvania penitentiaries, was relieved by providing light labor for idle hands and dragging hours. But one occupation after another has been abolished, perhaps at the instance of labor unions, until now 95 per cent of the inmates must pass their time without toil of any kind. Long experience has proved that such a condition favors the transference of convicts from the prison to the madhouse.

All this is both uneconomic and inhuman. In theory, at least, one purpose of the legal punishment of crime is reformation. But that purpose is thwarted by compulsory idleness, which undermines the stoutest resistance to gloom and to evil thoughts, while it encourages the wilfully vicious. It is normal to be active, and, conversely, inactivity promotes degeneracy. Thus the prospect of reform, if that be persistently kept in view, becomes dim and distant, if not altogether blighted.

Georgia offers Pennsylvania an example that invites imitation by putting its convicts at work on its public roads. This form of labor does not yield a waste product, neither does it enter into competition with free and honorable wage-earning. It adds to the wealth of the State, the convenience of its people, and the readiness and cheapness of transportation. It gives to prisoners wholesome exercise amid sunlight and fresh air, stimulates their desire for liberty, and encourages their good conduct. The result might well be to increase the percentage of those convicts who, after serving their terms, become actually desirable citizens. Pennsylvania holds in its own hands the realization of its desire for better roads.

"Senator Jeff Davis, in a letter to the President, says he does not want to be considered rude. Senator Davis must have changed since last we read of him," says the New York Mail. Not at all. Then he was talking to the octopus, which is an entirely different matter.

"Mr. Taft will sit from Washington to Beverly Bay and from Beverly Bay to Washington until Congress adjourns," says a contemporary. Mr. Taft may do a lot of things, grand, gloomy, or peculiar, but he will not "sit" anywhere exactly.

Gracious sakes alive! "Little Joe" Brown intimates that there is no money in the State treasury with which to pay the Jawlaw legislature its salary. This is calculated not only to make Freedom shriek, but to fall down and bite the dust.

It would be foolish to suspect that the Wright brothers know as much about aviation as some of their critics among the army officers, of course. The ordinary layman, nevertheless, we think, will incline to believe the Wrights are making fairly safe and sane progress.

One reason Mr. Aldrich's Senate so seldom gets excited is because he never feels it raw meat.

on his job, but that suggestion is putting it up rather strenuously to his English majesty, nevertheless.

"The President's Fourth of July address was on the growth of freedom," says the Providence Journal. He did not claim that it is flourishing like a green bay tree, exactly.

The Chattanooga Times thinks the Tennessee Supreme Court's decision in the Reelfoot Lake cases meant that future attempts by the prosecution to keep the defense from packing the jury may be sufficient grounds for assigning error that will stay put in case of conviction. And it looks very much that way, too.

We hereby prophesy that the Income tax amendment to the constitution of the United States will be adopted immediately following the revision of the tariff downward by the Republican party.

The Atlanta Journal, with conscious but not unjustified pride, claims that it "covers Dixie like the dew." It is safe to assume, however, that the Journal, in all the circumstances, does not mean "mountain dew."

"The Republican party is a party of majorities," said Senator Aldrich to Senator Beveridge, in concluding the tariff debate in the United States Senate. And, as another historically eminent stand-patter, Louis XIV, would have added, "The majority; it is I."

"Do not chide me, Mr. President, when I plead for the public," said Senator "Jeff" Davis, addressing the Vice President in the Senate recently. And Mr. Sherman did not chide Mr. Davis—not even a little, mild-mannered chide. You see, that is why they call Mr. Sherman "Sunny Jim."

The general impression prevails—if the newspapers are to be believed—that it is now the President's move in the tariff game.

It is asserted that there is not a Republican in Limestone, Ind., who will accept the postmaster's post. Can it be possible that, by some curious provision of law, the Limestone postmaster is required to pay the postmaster's salary out of his own pocket?

And so Bristol, Va., goes "wet" by thirty-two majority only. That was close call for the anti-prohibitionists; still, it beats that Kentucky majority of one.

"Some ministers talk too much," says an Iowa parson. Yes, indeed; and so do some other ministers, in all probability.

Mr. Taft's course in the immediate future, we imagine, will largely determine whether the consumer hereafter shall think of him now and then affectionately as "Bill," or invariably as William Howard Taft.

It is said that Harry Thaw has "improved wonderfully at Mattheawan." Glad to hear it. Fifty or sixty years more in that place may make a fairly decent citizen of Harry.

If, however, the increased duty on hemp serves to elevate still further the high cost of lynching, the kick will not be especially emphatic.

"Abdul Hamid has a cough," says a contemporary. He also has a wad, and any old mathematician ought to be able to put that 2 and 2 together.

"Senator Aldrich has swallowed Taft's corporation tax," says the Macon News. Doubtless the Senator thinks he knows a way benevolently to assimilate it.

This Washington July weather is guaranteed by the government.

Tom Watson's confession that he has read "Paradise Lost" is questioned in some quarters. Far be it from us to cross-examine him on the subject, however. We are friendly to him, among other things.

A Hit for Every Head.

VOL. III. NO. 8.

EVERY SATURDAY.

Our Motto: If you see it in The Big Stick, it isn't necessarily so.

A REAL POET.

The Big Stick rejoices that such great country has shown such prompt, generous, and abundant appreciation of the soulful outpourings of Poet J. Cecil Hoce.

Prof. Hoce—poetized "Ho-o," not "Ho-o," principally because Mr. Hoce became a minor key, his younger days as postmaster in Sanders Gap imperceptibly sailing. "Who is Ho-o?" has fairly won his spurs. His wonderful outpouring, "Cher Ub," published in The Big Stick, was copied far and wide—in Alexandria, Chevy Chase, Glen Ridge, and other suburban points, as well as in Kalamazoo, Schenectady, and Terre Haute. It was unusual, truthful, and thinking. It was with rare pleasure, therefore, that we call attention to another poem from Mr. Hoce, published in the last issue of The Big Stick, on page 1. It was inspired by a sad and somewhat melancholy event noted by way of prelude—and it serves to show how nobly Mr. Hoce handles himself, even when strumming his lute in a minor key. Come along, "Jimmie." Your poems are winning new friends for Washington's favorite newspaper. Now is the time to subscribe, we might add.

LE ROI EST MORT.

(King Mendelick of Abyssinia, as reported dead—Recent news item.) King Mendelick, that gay old boy, is dead again! What a minor key! Egad! It surely seems to me that man has died a lot! And first, I don't know!—Was many years ago.

But since that day old Mendelick died several times, I know. In all this world I do not think there is his equal quite. Sometimes he dies because he's mad, sometimes to be polite. George Washington's last servant, if I did now and then, and yet for champion drier of the world King Mendelick's last servant, if I did now and then, but one lone man.

On this terrestrial ball; No king was kind of human kind Will that man have at all. And Gabriel's horn will call to bat The dead and old the quick, And that one, longed-for man at large Will be King Mendelick.

King Mendelick is dead again! The dead and old the quick, Egad! It surely seems to me that man has died a lot! So often! Death has laid him low And faded to kill him that I do believe King Mendelick's Some sort of human sort.

Sunders Gap, Va., July 8.

Big Stick, Telephone Main 3393.

PEOPLE AND THINGS

One Woman's Thoughtfulness.

A thoughtful housewife in Philadelphia has put into practice during the hot weather the plan of offering to every person who comes to her front door a glass of cool water. In her experience, no one has ever declined her hospitable refreshment. Especially grateful are letter carriers, market boys, and deliverymen, whose work exposes them to the sun. This appreciation of her thoughtfulness has had the reflex effect of making her contented and calm upon the most fretful days. It is quite possible that other housekeepers in other cities may award to this plan the sincere flattery of imitation. Such agreeable domestic oases in the daily round of torrid duty may have the further effect of lessening the number of visits by the overheated to the saloon for the temporary but false relief offered by beer. It is a bit of kindness that cheers the mind while quenching the thirst, and tends to make more pleasant the way of the toiler.

Some Housekeeping Expenses.

The assertion that the cost of living has advanced is again controverted by some recent quotations. It is pointed out that oranges once 10 or 15 cents each, but now a whole box of California oranges can be bought for \$3, or less than 2 cents each. Bananas, highly nutritive, command from 1 to 3 cents. Good tea costs the housekeeper less than one-half cent a cup, and coffee also costs less than a cent a cup. Each cost less than half as much as the bottled spring water that many people use on their tables. Canned goods are also reasonable. A tin of salmon costs 15 cents, against 30 to 40 cents for the same fish fresh. A tin of domestic sardines costs 4 cents, and a tin of soup, sufficient to serve 4 or 5 persons, costs 8 to 10 cents. Enough oatmeal for a family of five costs 14 cents. Prunes are from 4 to 10 cents a pound. Good flour sells at 34 to 4 cents a pound, which formerly cost 4 to 10 cents. These quotations are made in New York, not in Washington.

Deadly Weapons in a City.

Chicago wages war against firearms on other days than the glorious Fourth. The firearms to which the police object are not carried for celebrations, but for crime or for defense against criminals. In one week 81 confiscated weapons were thrown into the lake. Formerly these weapons of thugs or of the timid were sold by the city to pawnbrokers, whence they passed to indiscriminate purchasers. But there is complaint that the law is not stringent enough. There is a demand that it be made a misdemeanor to carry any firearm less than two feet long. That is the law in several Southern States. Representative Sisson has a bill in Congress to impose a \$3 stamp tax on all deadly weapons—knives, daggers, and as well as revolvers and boxes of cartridges. There is a case pending in a Chicago court the decision of which will determine the validity of the existing ordinance of confiscation and destruction. Favorable decision will render human life in Chicago safer, if less exciting.

The Lure of the Stage.

More pathetic than humorous were the scenes that followed the advertisement of a burlesque theater in Philadelphia of a competition between women applicants for places in the stock company. There were girls, older girls, and others no longer girls in the line that crowded to the stage door. Many of them were clerks in department stores, others worked in factories, others were without occupation. On the stage, to which a selected number gained admittance, the scene was far from comic. Nearly all the applicants found themselves for the first time in tight, some of which fitted, while others did not. Some could sing, some could not, and there were few who could dance at all. The spectacle was both grotesque and sad. The strange part of it was that nearly every applicant had other employment. It was not hard necessity, but in most cases curiosity, that drew them to the stage. Nevertheless, there were offered, it is asserted, real positions at \$12 a week. Of necessity, only a few of the applicants were engaged.

Did He Mean Democratic Senators?

John Sharp Williams always did have a way of saying much in little, and that explains his telegram to Taunman's Fourth of July celebration. He wrote: "If there, I would choose as a subject 'When a Democrat is not a Democrat.' Some recent illustrations."

Woman with a Bad Heart.

From the Chicago Inter Ocean. "Doctor, do you ever do anything for charity? I am an awfully poor woman and have heart trouble. Won't you please examine my heart with the X-ray free of cost?" This plea was made recently by a poorly dressed woman of about sixty-five years old to Dr. George Herndon, of Corvillie, Hagerstown to look a little lower than the heart, he discovered two \$3 gold pieces in a chamols bag under the woman's garment.

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Passed the Flower Stage Long Since.

From the Boston Traveler. George Mason, the stage manager, is a lover of nature and a hater of overcoats and umbrellas. Recently, during a violent rainstorm, he called on his mother, entering her presence wringing wet.

George.

"George," said she, firmly, "you ought not to expose yourself in such weather. You will get pneumonia."

But, mother.

"But, mother," exclaimed George, with a theatrical wave of his hand, "why should I fear the rain? Does it not nurture the grass? Is it not life to the flowers?"

"It is a long time," said the good woman, closing a window, "since you were a flower."

Nation Can Afford to Be Sedate.

From the Cleveland Leader. The greater and vaster and more imposing the republic becomes, the less inclined its people are to vaunt themselves. The stronger and richer and more impressive the nation finds itself on its most significant anniversary, the more its citizens are inclined to think much of their responsibilities and weighty problems. The surer their country's footing among the greatest powers of the earth, the more sedately and modestly they bear themselves as a people.

Let Him Dictate to Stenographer.

From the Philadelphia North American. An English bishop says that the Kaiser wants to dictate to the United States. Having been warned in time, we can cure the Kaiser of that ambition. We'll just let him dictate to our young women stenographers awhile.

DO YOU KNOW—

That J. Fred Kelley is going to give up the uncertainty of District politics and engage in the manufacture of fireworks, in order to get the contract for Bryan's inauguration?

That Bonnie W. Guy wants it understood that he is not responsible for his son's was hitting in the ship?

That the United States Senator from New York is a slinger.

Read the Bignillie Bugle to-morrow.

GUS J. KAMBER.

A HOT DAY.

Do you recall, dear Ebenezer, that winter day, some months ago? It was a large, three-cornered freezer, its whiskers full of ice and snow. You stood around, my friend, and shivered, and quoted some four hundred lines, from pagan prophets, and delivered some thoughts that smelled of sulphur mines. You said, with lips that froze together, that winter was a howling fake; you only wanted summer weather, so you could sit in peace, and bake. And now the heat waves fairly sizzle; the fat old sun is on the job; you say that summer is a fizzle, and you just pump up tears and sob. The weather is Dame Nature's teaser; with it she often runs amuck; and we're all like sweet Ebenezer—we don't know when we are in luck. If skies are blue, we are complaining, and when it's hot we scream and scold; we raise a riot when it's raining, and mutiny when it is cold. If all the seraphim together planned out a climate that would please, we'd roar about the beastly weather, and want a chance to roast or freeze.

WALT MASON.

(Copyright, 1909, by George Matthew Adams.)

TUCKER STRONG IN DEBATE.

Mann Soon Discovered that He Was Outlasted on Stump.

From the Richmond Journal. In joint debate Tucker is probably the strongest man in the State. He went through a hard schooling during his Congressional days, when he faced such men as Jake Yost, and Brown Allen, and John Paul, Valley Republicans of celebrated ability. In four campaigns for Congress, every one of which he won, Tucker took to the stump, and contested with his unsparring opponents throughout the Tenth district.

The great disparity between Tucker and Judge Mann as debaters was instantly apparent at Boydton, and while Judge Mann has since sought to make it appear that he does not fear Tucker in debate, the fact remains that he does, and few there are, even among his own friends, who do not realize it. So confident was Tucker as a writer, after hearing the Boydton debate, that Judge Mann would never again meet his opponent in a fact-to-fact discussion that he made the unqualified statement that the one and only joint debate of the campaign had occurred. Subsequent events have abundantly verified the correctness of our judgment. Judge Mann quickly realized his inability to cope with Tucker, and decided that thereafter he would discuss issues and records at long range.

MODERN TYPE OF WOMAN.

Growing Evil of Society that Tends to Invite Crime.

From the New York American. In the recent terrible roster of crimes involving women there is a suggestion of a growing evil in society.

It is a harsh thing to say. But truth demands it. The fact is that modern conditions are tending to deprive women of their mantle of protection against lust and crime, namely, modesty. Even the worst of men shrink when confronted with that ancient panoply of virtue and chastity. It is the bold, self-sufficient woman of modern society—who fears no man—that is the victim of her own boldness.

There is an immutable rule. Every woman needs a devoted man. And when this rule is broken—and women try to play the role of men—they are likely to be broken on the remorseless wheel of their own sex. Losing modesty does not mean necessarily the loss of virtue, but it reverses the rule of nature and honor which even the worst of men obey—the time-honored rule that woman must be cherished and protected by the arm of the man.

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AT THE HOTELS.

"East Indians are the most imperturbable people in the world," said Percy S. Kerr, of Calcutta. "London, you know, is at the New Willard. 'You may throw one down stairs or pat him on the back, he accepts both with exactly the same expression of countenance."

"The Indian's religion is at the bottom of all his acts, all his feelings," continued the young Englishman, who is touring this country. "He eats, sleeps, moves, and has his being according to religious formulae. And his doctrine of reincarnation forms his whole philosophy of life. The fact that you are the master now is due to the fact that you have been the servant in some previous reincarnation. He is the servant now, and the only chance for him to be reborn in the master's position, is to learn all the lessons of his present reincarnation. He takes everything philosophically. It is all a part of the day's work."

"No white woman in Calcutta," continued Mr. Kerr, "will have a Christian Indian for a servant. They have lost all the ethics of their own religion and have not taken any of those of the new one."

"Calcutta is the most cosmopolitan city in India. Conditions of life there are very similar to those in any European city. It is situated in the least attractive part of India, where the climatic conditions are bad. The English in India have no interest in studying native life. To them the natives are simply 'servants.' They neither hold any social intercourse with them, nor recognize socially any person who does. If one visits an Indian household, he is treated with the greatest courtesy, but he does not enter into the life where food is prepared or eaten, and if he eats in the house, the dish he uses is afterward destroyed. Yet the obligations of the hospitality are very strong. An Indian would never do anything against one who had eaten in his house."

"No white person, no matter how long he may study it, ever arrives at any clear understanding of the native life. Wealth and position have nothing to do with the caste system. A prince may be down from his elephant to salam a beggar. It is a topsy-turvy land which the white man will never understand."

Discussing banking in Scotland.

H. G. Nelson, a banker and broker of New York, who made a tour of Scotland, and who is at the Raleigh, said last night that in Scotland when a man has arrived at years of discretion and has won a reputation for capability a bank will, simply on his note, backed only by his character, advance him sufficient money to start in business.

"This is considered," continued Mr. Nelson, "and the conclusion is based on results to be a good risk. In our large cities, New York, San Francisco, for example, business is not so frequently conducted in that way, but there is no doubt that our great Western country owes much of its wonderful growth to those far-sighted country bankers who realized that the honest character was the chief asset to be considered. Naturally, character plays a relatively larger part in the loaning operations of a small bank than in a large bank, in a country bank than in a Wall street bank, and in the loaning of a bank to a country banker, relative importance is a matter of environment."

"If a Chinaman marries a white woman in Australia," said Fletcher F. Ferguson, of Melbourne, Australia, who is at the Riggs, "the children take after the father, hardly ever after the mother. Horde after horde from the north and west invaded and conquered China. Alien dynasty after alien dynasty occupied the throne; but it had but a passing and superficial effect on the Chinese. The Chinaman did not adopt the language or language of the conquerors; they adopted his, and often became more Chinese than aborigine. The successive invading hordes were absorbed by the Chinese as rivers are absorbed by the sea, and the Chinaman always remained. Every one who has been to China knows how he felt